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POLAND: Investigations of Corruption

The regime has quickened the pace of investigations of former party and government leaders for corruption and misfeasance. A close associate of former party leader Gierek will be the first official to be brought to trial. The regime's actions are intended to demonstrate a commitment to reform, thereby helping to reduce local pressure for institutional and additional personnel changes. Its stalling on this issue--for political and bureaucratic reasons--has rankled most Poles.